Remarks

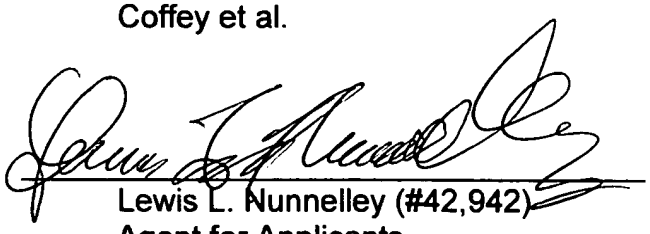
The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueki (US6,404,713) in view of Ohmori et al. (US5,182,742). Ueki describes using a temperature detection circuit to determine the ambient temperature of an optical disk. Ohmori et al. describes using a temperature sensor to measure the temperature of a disk cartridge in an optical disk drive.

The present invention relates to thermal assisted magnetic recording applicable to hard disk drives. As discussed on page 2 (last sentence) and shown quantitatively in Fig. 2 the amount of heating is critical in such high track density applications to achieve the desired effect for the targeted track without degrading adjacent tracks. Claims 1 and 6 now include the element of a piezoelectric film as the temperature sensor. Piezoelectric films are able to measure the blackbody radiation of the medium and thus enable the precision needed for high density recording.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Coffey et al.

Date: Feb 9, 2004 By: 

Lewis L. Nunnelley (#42,942)
Agent for Applicants
Hitachi Global Storage Technologies
Intellectual Property Law
5600 Cottle Road (NHGB/142)
San Jose, CA 95193
(408) 717-6570

LN/sy